

SCORE won the prestigious 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award honoring the accomplishments achieved through successful partnership between SCDNR, community organizations, and volunteers. SCDNR invites you to join this award winning team.

Volunteers

- Learn more about the environment and potential effects of human activities on our fragile coastal resources
- Participate in hands-on restoration and enhancement activities
- Gain a vested interest in natural resources
- Become better stewards of the environment

Year-round opportunities include

- Shell recycling
- Shell bagging
- Reef building
- Water quality monitoring
- Sampling oysters and associated fauna
- Photo-documentation of reef development
- Volunteer coordination

Contact Information

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Learn more at our website:

SCORE: <http://score.dnr.sc.gov>

Recycling: <http://saltwaterfishing.sc.gov/oyster.html>



*Volunteers of all ages get satisfaction
from knowing they are part of the
solution!*

SCORE



Community-based
Oyster Restoration Program
Sponsored by the
SC Department of Natural Resources



Why are oysters important?

- **Filters:** an adult oyster filters up to 50 gallons of water per day, improving water quality in the process.
- **Habitat:** oysters build reefs which provide habitat for fish, shrimp, crabs, birds and other animals.
- **Erosion Control:** oyster reefs are natural breakwaters that can protect shorelines.



Why do SC's oysters need restoration?

- Oyster larvae must attach to hard surfaces, preferably other oyster shells.
- Harvesting oysters removes substrate needed for larval settlement.
- Coastal development can lead to increased siltation which smothers oyster reefs
- Boat wakes can damage intertidal oyster reefs
- Returning shell to the water during the summer months provides needed substrate for future generations of oysters.

What is SCORE?

The South Carolina Oyster Restoration and Enhancement Program allows community volunteers to work with scientists to restore and monitor oyster habitat along the South Carolina coast. Volunteers recycle and bag oyster shell, construct oyster reefs, and monitor water quality and reef progress. SCORE volunteers have used more than 250 tons of shell to build 105 reefs at 28 sites since 2001. These sites are used as research platforms to improve restoration success.



Environmental Action Volunteers recycle and bag shell to build reefs in Beaufort County.



Volunteers of all ages help bag the shell.



Volunteers form a human chain to pass the shell bags to the shoreline.



Volunteers with finished reefs at Edisto Island.



Volunteers monitor water quality weekly at restoration sites and enter data online at our interactive website <http://score.dnr.sc.gov>